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### News Release - 1980-10-29

E. De la Garza

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# *news release*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1980

McALLEN --- Congressman Kika de la Garza today announced the inclusion of six new counties in the 15th Congressional District into the federal crop insurance program.

Bee, Duval, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kleberg and Live Oak Counties have been added to the "all-risk" program following an announcement today by Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland in Kansas City. The six 15th District counties were among 250 counties in 31 states named by Bergland for the program. Selection was based primarily on total acreage in wheat, feed grains, upland cotton and rice --- the crops targeted for the first expansion.

"For a long time we have been trying to get this program, which is of such crucial importance to all farmers, extended to all major agricultural areas in this country," the Congressman said. "The program gives farmers the chance to salvage their large investments in crop production following disasters and will do for farmers what federal disaster programs have been unable to do," he said.

"This is only the start of an ambitious five-year plan to extend crop insurance to all major agricultural counties in the U.S. and its territories."

De la Garza said the new program will allow farmers to guarantee insurance coverage on up to 75 percent of their average yields, select the price level used to determine payments on lost production, and purchase hail and fire coverage from private insurance firms and receive premium reductions in the all-risk Federal policy.

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